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Message Text

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15
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 INR-11 L-03 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 SAJ-01 NIC-01 DRC-01 IO-14

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O R 201012Z AUG 74
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4505
INFO USMISSION BERLIN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 13116

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, WB, GW, US, UK, FR, UR
SUBJECT: SOVIET RESPONSE TO ALLIED DEMARCHE ON FEDERAL ENVIRONMENT AGENCY (FEA) AND TRANSIT DIFFICULTIES

REF: MOSCOW 12550

1. AT AUGUST 19 TRIPARTITE MEETING, UK REP (CULLIMORE) REPORTED LONDON'S REACTION TO SOVIET REPLY TO ALLIED AUGUST 5 DEMARCHE. FCO OF VIEW THAT, PROVIDED THERE ARE NO FURTHER SERIOUS INCIDENTS ON THE TRANSIT ROUTES, THE MATTER SHOULD NOW BE ALLOWED TO REST. THE ALLIED-SOVIET EXCHANGES ON THIS COULD GO ON AND ON, BUT IT WAS DIFFICULT TO SEE WHAT PURPOSE WOULD THEREBY BE SERVED.

2. FRENCH (BOISSIEU) AND US REPS NOTED THEY WERE WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS OR REACTIONS THEIR AUTHORITIES, CONFIDENTIAL

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BUT STATED THEY TENDED TO AGREE WITH LONDON'S VIEW.

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THE ALLIES HAVE MADE THEIR CASE AND NOW THE SOVIET HAVE MADE THEIRS. IT WOULD SEEM THERE IS NOTHING TO BE GAINED BY ALLIES AGAIN MAKING SAME POINTS. PORTIONS OF SOVIET DEMARCHE RE GDR "RIGHTS" ARE PARTICULARLY OBNOXIOUS BUT ALLIES CLEARLY REJECTED SUCH ASSERTIONS IN AUGUST 5 DEMARCHE AND IT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT TO SINGLE OUT PORTION(S) OF SOVIET NOTE FOR EXPRESS REBUTTAL WITHOUT RESULTING IN UNDESIRABLE IMPLICATIONS RE THOSE PORTIONS LEFT UNADDRESSED.

3. COMMENT: AS NOTED ABOVE WE WOULD THINK THAT, PROVIDED HARASSMENTS ON TRANSIT WAYS DO NOT RE-OCCUR, BEST COURSE AT PRESENT IS FOR ALLIES TO STAND DOWN AND NOT RESPOND TO SOVIET STATEMENTS. ALLIED LEGAL POSITION WITH RESPECT TO AUGUST 15 CONTENTIONS IS CLEAR AND WOULD SEEM NOT TO REQUIRE RESTATEMENT NOW.

4. IN SEPARATE BILATERAL WITH FRG FONOFF REP, HE INDICATED THAT WORKING LEVEL FEELING IN FONOFF WAS ALSO THAT NO ALLIED RESPONSE TO SOVIET REPLY WAS NEEDED.
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